

January 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

This letter should reach you with a copy of your son/daughter's target grades for Level 3 courses (A Levels and equivalent Applied courses).

As we explained at the Pastoral Parents' Evening in September, we set individual subject targets which at A Level are created in conjunction with an organisation named Fisher Family Trust (FFT). FFT produces targets by using the national data-set of GCSE results alongside student background information. It has access to students' GCSE results and bases calculations on a capped point score (CPS) system, using each student's best 8 GCSE results which are believed to give the most accurate correlation to outcomes at A Level. The FFT algorithm matches this student-level profiling to historical attainment of similar students within each subject. Targets for the Extended Project Qualification are also based upon this system, using the most positive projection from subject targets.

For Applied courses, FFT does not produce targets due to the lack of data on these new courses so we are using a system known as ALPS which uses similar processes but bases its calculations on all GCSE results and on data from the Applied courses which preceded the current specifications.

The target grades we are using are aspirational and pitch our attainment in the top 20% nationally as many of our students achieve at this level. A Level courses will have targets in the form of A* - E and Applied courses will be D* (Distinction*), D (Distinction), M (Merit) and P (Pass). There will be no 'split' grades such as A/B.

Students have also been informed of their target grades and subject teachers and Senior Tutors will continue to monitor performance throughout their courses. We hope that these target grades will inform discussions of progress with subject teachers at the Year 12 Parents' Evening on 7 February from 4.30pm to 7.30pm at St Aidan's.

Yours faithfully



C I Kidman
Head of Sixth Form, St Aidan's



A Joy
Head of Sixth Form, St John Fisher